

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE

Suffolk County is making a concerted effort to see that all our residents who are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit apply for it. A Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site has been established at the **Suffolk County One-Stop Employment Center** at 725 Veterans Memorial Highway in Hauppauge to help you do just that.

Staffed with volunteers that were trained and certified by the IRS to help you apply for the tax credit, our VITA site will be open from Feb. 1, 2006 to April 15, 2006, Monday to Friday, by appointment only. Spanish speaking applicants welcome. There is no charge for EITC eligible filers. **Call (631) 853-6652 for an appointment.**

MORE MONEY IN YOUR POCKET

EITC is a tax credit for low-income workers who are eligible for and claim the credit. The credit reduces the amount of tax an individual owes, and may be returned in the form of a refund. Amounts vary depending on your family's earned income and number of qualifying children.

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR EITC IF:

You are a U.S. citizen or resident with a valid SS#, work & file a tax return

You do not have a qualifying child and earn less than **\$11,750**

(**\$13,750** if married, filing jointly)

You have 1 qualifying child and earn less than **\$31,030**

(**\$33,030** if married, filing jointly)

You have more than 1 qualifying child and earn less than **\$35,263**

(**\$37,263** if married, filing jointly)

EITC is not counted as income or resources for Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI, federally assisted housing programs or eligibility for TANF cash assistance.